(c) what is the number of tribal population displaced with the help of police from this area?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) : (a) The Government of Gujarat has issued a notification under section 2(8)(d) of the Official Secrets Act, 1923 declaring the dam site and the surrounding areas covering 12 villages as a prohibited place.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Steamer service between Bombay and Goa

2121. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to resume the Konkan Coastal passenger steamer service btetween Bombay and Goa; and

(b) by when the service is likely to be provided for the people in his sector?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The two steamers M.V. Konkan Sevak and M.V. Konkon Shakti, which were being operated by Shipping Corporation of India between Bombay and Goa, were placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Defence with effect from 29-1-1988 and 2-5-1988, respectively. Shipping Corporation of India do not propose to resume this service even after the return of the two steamers to them. M.V. Konkan Shakti was built in 1964 and M.V. Konkan Sevak in 1965. Both the vessels have outlived normal life and are due for scrapping. Government of India had suggested to the Government of Maharashtra and Goa that they might consider acquiring, singly or jointly, suitable new or second-hand vessels and share the losses, if any, involved in running this service. In the mean time, applications from three private parties have been cleared for acquisition of catamaran vessels for operating passanger services between Bombay and Goa.

Government is also re-examining the policy of providing better coastal services in Konkan and elsewhere.

Meeting for solution of Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute

212. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government, as promised, had arranged a meeting between the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka to find out a solution to the issue of bondary dispute between the two States before the imposition of President's rule in Karnataka?

(b) If so, when and the outcome thereof ; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) : (a) to (c) The former Home Minister had remained in touch with the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka separately in the matter. As a prelude to the holding of a joint meeting between the Chief Ministers of the two States, it was considered appropiate to have separate dicussions with them. Accordingly, the Home Minister invited in the first insitance the then Chief Minister, Karnataka to come for discussions on 17-4-1989. The latter expressed inability to keep this appointment and asked for any date between 28-4-1989 and 6-5-1989.

The Home Minister fixed 3rd May, 1989 for the meeting. This, however, did not materialise in view of the imposition of President's Rule in Karantaka State with effect from 21st April, 1989.

Allotment of land for private schools in Chandigarh

213. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for allotment of land for private schools pending with the Chandigarh Administration as on 31st March, 1989 ;

(b) the time since when these applications are pending and the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether land already allotted has been given at concessional rates?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) : (a) 17.

(b) These applications were received during the period from 5/88 to 3/89. Decision could not be taken for the following reasons :—

(i) non-furnishing of necessary certificates regarding availablility of funds with the school ;

(ii) application not received in proper form and with full details;

(iii) non-verification of school's status;

(iv) non-availability of adequate land at the site asked for by the school concerned ; etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Statehood to Union Territories

214. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering the demand for granting state-hood to Delhi ;

(b) whether Government have received any representations from various Union Territories for grant of statehood including the Union Territory of Pondicherry ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to grant statehood to all these regions?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) The Committee on Re-organisation of Delhi Set-up has submitted its Report to the Government on the 14th December, 1989 and it is presently under consideration.

(b) and (c) No demand for Statehood has been received from any other Union Territory except Pondicherry, the Legislative Assembly of which has passed Resolutions demanding Statehood. The Resolutions have been noted.

Indo-Nepal talks to solve Trade dispute

215. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI KAPIL VERMA :
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYWANTRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to hold any negotiations with Nepal Government for solving the Indo-Nepal trade and transit dispute: and

(b) if so, by when the negotiations are likely to be started?